from...its inception, especially after large numbers of workers began to join its ranks. Her analysis suggests that that leadership is essentially Stalinist and, therefore, incompatible with its avowed aim of modernizing China's economy. Especially interesting is her citation from another astute observer of the China scene, Jan Pryblya, who speaks of China currently having "mercantilism with corrupt characteristics." Recently, the word "mercantilism" has been used to not only describe the economies of Latin America but also explain why they function so ineffectually. If the term is equally applicable to China, then, in spite of its economic gains during the past decade, that country is unlikely to become a part of the modern industrial world.

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The current Soviet scene

TO THE EDITOR:
I have just read Ludmilla Thorne's outstanding interview with Sergei Grigoryants in *Freedom at Issue* (September-October 1989). It is worth any two pounds of books and articles which I have read on the subject of the current scene in the Soviet Union. The exchange provides a marvelous example of the psychological components to the usual rhetoric about Soviet life. It also gives a sense of intimacy with Soviet life that is lacking in most accounts.

The exchange also proves an old adage: that a good interview needs two smart people to work well. In this instance, the questions and probes were a match for Grigoryants.

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